

ABSTRACT

Disclosed are techniques for processing a packet. A packet is received. Context data for the packet is located in a storage area. The packet is processed using the context data.

Also disclosed is a network protocol processor with an interface to receive a packet, a cache to store context data for the packet, and a processing engine to process the packet using context data in the cache. Moreover, the network protocol processor includes a working register to store the context data for a current connection that is being processed. Additionally, the cache is capable of storing and retrieving context data for multiple connections.